

Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Advisory Council

May 29, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Linda M. Dziobek, R.N., Chair, Partnership to reduce Cancer in Rhode Island; **Rev. Marie Carpenter**, Director of Eldercare Ministries, American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island; Chair of the Advisory Council, **Dr. Edward V. Martin, M.D., MPH**, Medical Director, Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island; **Dr. Angela Taber, M.D.**, Palliative Medicine Physician, Miriam Hospital and Rhode Island Hospital; **Dr. Joan M. Teno**, Professor of Health Systems, Policy and Practice, Brown University School of Public Health; **Nancy Roberts, MSN, R.N.**, President and CEO, VNA of Care New England Health System; **Maria Barros, R.N.**, Director of Clinical Services, Nursing Placement, Inc.

Members Not Present/ Excused:

None

Staffing the Advisory Council:

Manuela Raposo, Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, Rhode Island Department of Health

Members of the Public Present:

Jim Willsey, Roger Williams Medical Center

Susan Roberts

Present from Rhode Island Department of Health (HEALTH):

Dr. Nicole Alexander-Scott, Director, HEALTH

C. Kelly Smith, MSW, Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, Rhode Island Department of Health

Minutes:

1. Introductions, Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum (Chair)

Dr. Martin welcomed and thanked the Council Members and Members of the Public. Manuela Raposo then called roll (results above). Dr Martin reported out on the following:

a. Dr Teno completed the Report and is inviting feedback

2. Palliative Care Needs and Services in Rhode Island: Discussion on Report:

Dr. Joan Teno provided the following information: Many good things happening, although data is now 6 months old, Dr Teno will provide draft of Conclusions and Recommendations for next meeting.

3. Discussion ensued on the need to change the image of palliative care in the community

- Website, brochure
- Activities such as a walkathon, etc.
- The CRC Roundtable was a successful way of having the conversation
- Include Palliative Care information in Community Health Network Materials

The Director of HEALTH, Dr Nicole Alexander-Scott came in to introduce herself to the Council, and the Council introduced themselves to her. A brief summary of the content of the meeting so far was provided to her by Dr Martin: Dr Alexander –Scott thanked the Council for their commitment to Palliative Care and provided the following feedback:

- As to the Vacancies on the committee: Involving RI pediatric palliative care, consumer perspective, insurer perspective-Neighborhood Health Plan,
- As for the communication/education issue and the desire to change the image of Palliative Care: Put together key elements for providers to include in HEALTH CONNECTIONS Invite HEALTH's Communication Director to next meeting.
- Dialogue on pain management would be good to have with stakeholders

5. Next steps:

- a. Dr Teno will provide conclusions and recommendations to add to the report
- b. Set date for Communications Director to come to meeting

6. Public Comments

- Jim reported on a trip to Bayview Commons Nursing Home. They have palliative care services with a trained palliative care nurse. Palliative care rotation for residents should be mandatory.
- Susan Roberts stated that she is getting a lot of inquiries from other states in regards to the Palliative Care AC and people are also inquiring about website. Also if there is capability to call in to listen in.
- Collective thanks was given to Dr Joan Teno for her contributions to Palliative Care in RI.

8. Future Meetings

The Advisory Council members will meet every other month, on the last Friday of the month, from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. There will be an extraordinary meeting scheduled for June 18, 3:30 pm. Next regularly scheduled meeting is scheduled for September 25th, 2015, 3:30pm.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:34pm. (Minutes reported by Manuela Raposo)